THE HIGH TREASON (PUNISHMENT) ACT, 1973

(LXVIII OF 1973)

26th September, 1973

An Act to provide for the punishment of persons found guilty of acts of abrogation or subversion of a Constitution or of high treason

Preamble: Whereas it is necessary to provide for the punishment of persons found guilty of acts of abrogation or subversion of a Constitution or of **high treason**;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- **1. Short title, extent and commencement** : (1) This act may be called the **High Treason** (Punishment) Act, 1973.
- (2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.
- (3) it shall come into force at once.
- **2. Punishment for high treason, etc.** : A person who is found guilty--
- (a) of having committed an act of abrogation or subversion of a constitution in force in Pakistan at any time since the twenty-third day of March, 1956; or
- (b) of **high treason** as defined in Article 6 of the Constitution, shall be punishable with death or imprisonment for life.
- **3. Procedure**: No Court shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this act except upon a complaint in writing made by a person authorised by the Federal Government in this behalf.